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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/974,768	10/09/2001	Kenneth C. Cundy	033053-040	6895
7590 07/16/2004 Gerald F. Swiss, Esq. BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, VA 22313-1404			EXAMINER	
			BADIO, BARBARA P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			AKTONII	PAPER NUMBER
			1616	20
			DATE MAILED: 07/16/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Summary		09/974,768	CUNDY ET AL.			
		Examiner	Art Unit			
		Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D.	1616			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
THE MAILING - Extensions of time after SIX (6) MON - If the period for recommendation of the second secon	ED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY DEPLY OF THIS COMMUNICATION. The major be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 MTHS from the mailing date of this communication. The ply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply sply is specified above, the maximum statutory period we within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, d by the Office later than three months after the mailing m adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	6(a). In no event, however, may a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30 ill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS cause the application to become ABAND	be timely filed i) days will be considered timely. from the mailing date of this communication. DONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status						
1) Respons	Responsive to communication(s) filed on					
<u>'</u>	This action is FINAL 2b) This action is non-final.					
	3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the ments is					
closed i	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of CI	aims	·				
4) Claim(s)	4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.					
4a) Of th	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.					
· <u> </u>	5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.					
	Claim(s) is/are rejected.					
	7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.					
o) 🖂 Claim(s)) <u>1-23</u> are subject to restriction and/or e	iection requirement.				
Application Pape	ers					
9)∏ The spec	cification is objected to by the Examine					
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35	U.S.C. § 119					
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).						
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
Attachment(s)	•					
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)						
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)						
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6) Other:						

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Due to the numerous variables in the claims, e.g., R¹, R², R⁶, X, Z, Q^x, Q^{x'}, G, M, I, J, D, K, R⁴⁰, I', J', D', K', R^{40'}, etc. and their widely divergent meanings, this application discloses and claims a plurality of patentably independent and distinct inventions far too numerous to list individually. For this reason, restriction to one of the following Groups is required under 35 USC 121, wherein a Group is a set of patentably distinct invention, i.e., compounds. The following groups are **exemplary**:

Group I. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and compositions thereof wherein \mathbf{R}^1 and \mathbf{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbf{X} is hydroxy, \mathbf{Z} is $-\mathbf{M}-\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ wherein \mathbf{M} is $-\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{OC}(\mathbf{O})$ -, $\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ is $\mathbf{I}'_{i'}$ - $\mathbf{J}'_{j'}$ - \mathbf{D}' - $\mathbf{K}'_{k'}$ - $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ wherein \mathbf{I}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{50'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{51'}\mathbf{R}^{52'})_{a'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{53'}\mathbf{R}^{54'})_{b'}-\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{J}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{55'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{56'}\mathbf{R}^{57'})_{c'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{58'}\mathbf{R}^{59'})_{d'}-\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{K}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{60'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{61'}\mathbf{R}^{62'})_{e'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{63'}\mathbf{R}^{64'})_{f'}-\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ is hydroxy, \mathbf{D} is a penicillin (i.e., a compound having 4-thia-1-azabicyclo[3.2.0]heptane-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), $\mathbf{R}^{60'}$ -64' each represent a hydrogen atom, \mathbf{a}' , \mathbf{c}' , \mathbf{e}' and \mathbf{I}' each is 1 and \mathbf{b}' , \mathbf{d}' , \mathbf{f}' , \mathbf{j}' and \mathbf{k}' are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group II. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein \mathbb{R}^1 and \mathbb{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbb{X} is hydroxy, \mathbb{Z} is $-M-Q^{x'}$ wherein \mathbb{M} is $-CH_2CH_2C(O)$ -, $\mathbb{Q}^{x'}$ is $I'_{i'}-J'_{j'}-D'-K'_{k'}-R^{40'}$ wherein \mathbb{I}' is $[NR^{50'}-(CR^{51'}R^{52'})_{a'}-(CR^{53'}R^{54'})_{b'}-C(O)]$, \mathbb{J}' is $[NR^{55'}-(CR^{56'}R^{57'})_{c'}-(CR^{58'}R^{59'})_{d'}-C(O)]$, \mathbb{K}' is $[NR^{60'}-(CR^{61'}R^{62'})_{e'}-(CR^{63'}R^{64'})_{f'}-C(O)]$, $\mathbb{R}^{40'}$ is hydroxy, \mathbb{D} is a penicillin (i.e., a compound

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having 4-thia-1-azabicyclo[3.2.0]heptane-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), $\mathbf{R}^{50'-64'}$ each represent a hydrogen atom, $\mathbf{a'}$, $\mathbf{c'}$, $\mathbf{e'}$ and $\mathbf{l'}$ each is 1 and $\mathbf{b'}$, $\mathbf{d'}$, $\mathbf{f'}$, $\mathbf{j'}$ and $\mathbf{k'}$ are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group III. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, X is hydroxy, Z is -M-Qx' wherein M is -CH2CH2C(O)-, Qx' is l'i-J'j-D'-K'k-R⁴0' wherein l' is [NR^{50'}-(CR^{51'}R^{52'})a'-(CR^{53'}R^{54'})b'-C(O)], J' is [NR^{55'}-(CR^{56'}R^{57'})c'-(CR^{58'}R^{59'})d'-C(O)], K' is [NR^{60'}-(CR^{61'}R^{62'})e-(CR^{63'}R^{64'})r-C(O)], R⁴0' is hydroxy, D is a penicillin (i.e., a compound having 4-thia-1-azabicyclo[3.2.0]heptane-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), R^{50'}, R^{55'} and R^{60'} each represent a hydrogen atom, R^{51'}, R^{52'}, R^{53'}, R^{54'}, R^{56'}, R^{57'}, R^{58'}, R^{59'}, R^{61'} R^{62'}, R^{63'} and R^{64'} each represent alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl or substituted alkynyl, a', c', e' and l' each is 1 and b', d', f', j' and k' are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group IV. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein \mathbf{R}^1 and \mathbf{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbf{X} is hydroxy, \mathbf{Z} is $-\mathbf{M}-\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ wherein \mathbf{M} is $-\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})$ -, $\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ is $\mathbf{I}'_{i'}$ - $\mathbf{J}'_{j'}$ - \mathbf{D}' - $\mathbf{K}'_{k'}$ - $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ wherein \mathbf{I}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{50'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{51'}\mathbf{R}^{52'})_{a'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{53'}\mathbf{R}^{54'})_{b'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{J}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{55'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{56'}\mathbf{R}^{57'})_{c'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{58'}\mathbf{R}^{59'})_{d'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{K}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{60'}-(\mathbf{CR}^{61'}\mathbf{R}^{62'})_{e'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{63'}\mathbf{R}^{64'})_{f'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ is hydroxy, \mathbf{D} is a penicillin (i.e., a compound having 4-thia-1-azabicyclo[3.2.0]heptane-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), $\mathbf{R}^{60'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{55'}$ and $\mathbf{R}^{60'}$ each represent a hydrogen atom, $\mathbf{R}^{51'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{52'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{53'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{54'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{56'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{57'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{58'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{59'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{61'}$ $\mathbf{R}^{62'}$, $\mathbf{R}^{63'}$ and $\mathbf{R}^{64'}$ each represent alkyl, substituted

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alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl or substituted alkynyl, a', c', e' and l' each is 1 and b', d', f', j' and k' are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group V. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein \mathbf{R}^1 and \mathbf{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbf{X} is hydroxy, \mathbf{Z} is $-\mathbf{M}-\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ wherein \mathbf{M} is $-\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{OC}(\mathbf{O})$ -, $\mathbf{Q}^{x'}$ is $\mathbf{I}'_{i'}$ - $\mathbf{J}'_{j'}$ - \mathbf{D}' - $\mathbf{K}'_{k'}$ - $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ wherein \mathbf{I}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{50'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{51'}\mathbf{R}^{52'})_{a'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{53'}\mathbf{R}^{54'})_{b'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{J}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{55'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{56'}\mathbf{R}^{57'})_{c'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{58'}\mathbf{R}^{59'})_{d'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{K}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{60'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{61'}\mathbf{R}^{62'})_{e'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{63'}\mathbf{R}^{64'})_{f'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ is hydroxy, \mathbf{D} is a cephalosporin (i.e., a compound having 5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), $\mathbf{R}^{50'\cdot64'}$ each represent a hydrogen atom, $\mathbf{a'}$, $\mathbf{c'}$, $\mathbf{e'}$ and $\mathbf{I'}$ each is 1 and $\mathbf{b'}$, $\mathbf{d'}$, $\mathbf{f'}$, $\mathbf{j'}$ and $\mathbf{k'}$ are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group VI. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein \mathbf{R}^1 and \mathbf{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbf{X} is hydroxy, \mathbf{Z} is $-\mathbf{M}-\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{X}'}$ wherein \mathbf{M} is $-\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})$ -, $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{X}'}$ is $\mathbf{I}'_{\mathbf{I}'}$ - $\mathbf{J}'_{\mathbf{J}'}$ - \mathbf{D}' - $\mathbf{K}'_{\mathbf{K}'}$ - $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ wherein \mathbf{I}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{50'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{51'}\mathbf{R}^{52'})_{\mathbf{a}'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{53'}\mathbf{R}^{54'})_{\mathbf{b}'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{J}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{55'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{56'}\mathbf{R}^{57'})_{\mathbf{c}'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{58'}\mathbf{R}^{59'})_{\mathbf{d}'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, \mathbf{K}' is $[\mathbf{NR}^{60'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{61'}\mathbf{R}^{62'})_{\mathbf{e}'}$ - $(\mathbf{CR}^{63'}\mathbf{R}^{64'})_{\mathbf{f}'}$ - $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})]$, $\mathbf{R}^{40'}$ is hydroxy, \mathbf{D} is a cephalosporin (i.e., a compound having 5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), $\mathbf{R}^{50'}$ - $\mathbf{64'}$ each represent a hydrogen atom, $\mathbf{a'}$, $\mathbf{c'}$, $\mathbf{e'}$ and $\mathbf{I'}$ each is 1 and $\mathbf{b'}$, $\mathbf{d'}$, $\mathbf{f'}$, $\mathbf{j'}$ and $\mathbf{k'}$ are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group VII: Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein \mathbb{R}^1 and \mathbb{R}^2 are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, \mathbb{X} is hydroxy, \mathbb{Z} is $-M-Q^{x'}$ wherein \mathbb{M} is $-CH_2CH_2C(O)$ -, $\mathbb{Q}^{x'}$ is $I'_{i'}$ - $J'_{j'}$ -D'- $K'_{k'}$ - $\mathbb{R}^{40'}$ wherein \mathbb{I}' is $[N\mathbb{R}^{50'}$ - $(C\mathbb{R}^{51'}\mathbb{R}^{52'})_{a'}$ - $(C\mathbb{R}^{53'}\mathbb{R}^{54'})_{b'}$ -C(O)]. \mathbb{J}' is $[N\mathbb{R}^{55'}$ - $(C\mathbb{R}^{56'}\mathbb{R}^{57'})_{c'}$ - $(C\mathbb{R}^{58'}\mathbb{R}^{59'})_{d'}$ - $(C\mathbb{R}^{50'}\mathbb{R}^{50'})_{d'}$

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[NR^{60'}-(CR^{61'}R^{62'})_{e'}-(CR^{63'}R^{64'})_{f'}-C(O)], R^{40'} is hydroxy, **D** is a cephalosporin (i.e., a compound having 5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), R^{50'}, R^{55'} and R^{60'} each represent a hydrogen atom, R^{61'}, R^{62'}, R^{63'}, R^{64'}, R^{56'}, R^{57'}, R^{58'}, R^{69'}, R^{61'} R^{62'}, R^{63'} and R^{64'} each represent alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkynyl or substituted alkynyl, a', c', e' and l' each is 1 and b', d', f', j' and k' are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

Group VIII. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 23 (in part), drawn to compounds and composition thereof wherein R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen or hydroxy, X is hydroxy, Z is -M-Q^{x'} wherein M is -CH₂CH₂C(O)-, Q^{x'} is l'_{i'}-J'_{j'}-D'-K'_{k'}-R^{40'} wherein l' is [NR^{50'}-(CR^{51'}R^{52'})a-(CR^{53'}R^{54'})b-C(O)], J' is [NR^{55'}-(CR^{56'}R^{57'})c-(CR^{58'}R^{59'})d-C(O)], K' is [NR^{60'}-(CR^{61'}R^{62'})e-(CR^{63'}R^{64'})r-C(O)], R^{40'} is hydroxy, D is a cephalosporin (i.e., a compound having 5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-carboxylic acid moiety as defined by the present specification), R^{50'}, R^{55'} and R^{60'} each represent a hydrogen atom, R^{61'}, R^{52'}, R^{63'}, R^{64'}, R^{66'}, R^{57'}, R^{58'}, R^{69'}, R^{61'} R^{62'}, R^{63'} and R^{64'} each represent alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl or substituted alkynyl, a', c', e' and l' each is 1 and b', d', f', j' and k' are each 0, classified in 540, subclass 2+.

2. In accordance with the decisions in *In re Harnisch*, 631 F.2d 716, 206 USPQ 300 (CCPA 1980); and *Ex parte Hozumi*, 3 USPQ2d 1059 (bd. Pat. App. & Int. 1984), restriction of a Markush group is proper where the compounds within the group either (1) do not share a common utility, or (2) do not share a substantial structural feature disclosed as being essential to that utility. In addition, a Markush group may

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encompass a plurality of independent and distinct inventions where two or more members are so unrelated and diverse that a prior reference anticipating the claim with respect to one of the members would not render the other member(s) obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

3. In the instant case, upon election of a single compound (or set of compounds), the Office will review the claims and disclosure to determine the scope of the independent invention encompassing the elected compound (compounds which are so similar thereto as to be within the same inventive concept and reduction to practice). The scope of an independent invention will encompass all compounds within the scope of the claim which fall into the same class and subclass as the elected compound (or set of compounds), but may also include additional compounds which fall in related subclasses. Examination will then proceed on the elected compounds AND the entire scope of the invention encompassing the elected compound as defined by common classification. A clear statement of the examined invention, defined by those class(es) and subclass(es) will be set forth in the first action on the merits. Note that the restriction requirement will not be made final until such time as applicant is informed of the full scope of compounds along with process of using said compound under examination. This will be set forth by reference to specific class(es) and subclass(es) examined. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the compounds are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the compounds to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record

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that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission **will** be used in a rejection under 35 U.S. C. 103(a) of the others.

All compounds falling outside the scope of the elected Group will be directed to nonelected subject matter and will be withdrawn from consideration under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 37 C.F.R. 1.142(b). Applicant may reserve the right to file divisional applications on the remaining subject matter. The provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 apply with regard to double patenting covering divisional applications.

- 4. Applicant is reminded that upon cancellation of claims to non-elected invention, the inventors must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) if one of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i).
- 5. If desired, upon election of a single compound, applicants can review the claims and disclosure to determine the scope of the invention and can **set forth** a group of compounds which are so similar within the same inventive concept and reduction to practice. Markush claims must be provided with support in the disclosure for each member of the Markush group. See MPEP 608.01(p). Applicant should exercise caution in making a selection of a single member for each substituent group on the base molecule to be consistent with the written description.

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6. Rationale Establishing Patentable Distinctiveness Within Each Group

Each Invention Set listed above is directed to or involves compounds which are recognized in the art as being distinct from one another because of their diverse chemical structure, their different chemical properties, modes of action, different effects and reactive conditions (MPEP 806.04, MPEP 808.01). Additionally, the level of skill in the art is not such that one invention would be obvious over either of the other inventions, i.e. they are patentable over each other. Chemical structures which are similar are presumed to function similarly, whereas chemical structures that are not similar are not presumed to function similarly. The presumption even for similar chemical structures though is not irrebuttable, but may be overcome by scientific reasoning or evidence showing that the structure of the prior art would not have been expected to function as the structure of the claimed invention. Note that in accordance with the holdings of Application of Papesch, 50 CCPA 1084, 315 F.2d 381, 137 USPQ 43 (CCPA 1963) and <u>In re Lalu</u>, 223 USPQ 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1984), chemical structures are patentably distinct where the structures are either not structurally similar, or the prior art fails to suggest a function of a claimed compound would have been expected from a similar structure.

The above Groups represent general areas wherein the inventions are independent and distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Each of the different Group is unrelated because each is drawn to structurally different compounds.

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In addition, because of the numerous variables defined by the instant claims and definitions thereof, a serious burden is imposed on the examiner to perform a complete search of the entire scope of instant claims. Therefore, because of the reason given above, the restriction set forth is proper and not to restrict would impose a serious burden in the examination of this application.

- 7. With the election of a Inventive Group, applicant is required to elect a specific species from under said Group for search purposes.
- 8. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Other Matters

9. The examiner notes the withdrawal of the previous Restriction requirement. The withdrawal is based on the desire to better define the various Inventions recited by the instant claims.

Telephone Inquiry

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0609. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 6:00am-3:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz can be reached on 571-272-0887. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D.

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1616

BB June 23, 2004